

Title	Addenda and corrigenda (ad Celtica xxvii (2016), 191 and xxxi (2019), 213–98)
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Date	2020
Citation	Hoyne, Mícheál (2020) Addenda and corrigenda (ad Celtica xxvii (2016), 191 and xxxi (2019), 213–98). Celtica, 32. pp. 183-185. ISSN 0069-1399 (Accepted Version)
URL	https://dair.dias.ie/id/eprint/1109/

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

AD *CELTICA* XXVII (2016), 191

In my discussion of *té/te* ‘hot’ in Classical Modern Irish, I cited the following example of uncompounded *te*:

Moille mé ná crann re sruth;
atá mo ghuth ar mo bhreith;
dá mbeidís bruit Leithe Cuinn
fá mo dhruim, do bheith sé te.

The loose rhyme *bhreith* : *te* confirms the short vowel of the latter.¹ These four lines occur Cú Chonnacht Ó Cléirigh’s poem *Neimhthinn an galar é an grádh* (Ó Rathile 1926: poem 8, ll. 13–16), a satire of the conventions of courtly love poetry. My translation (Hoyne 2016: 191) missed the point entirely. I would now translate as follows:

‘I am [in fact] slower than a tree being carried away by the stream; I have not lost my voice; if all the cloaks of Leath Cuinn were around me, I would [indeed] feel warm.’

AD *CELTICA* XXXI (2019), 213–98

The term *liter shelbhuighthe* ‘radical letter’ occurs in Godfrey Daniel’s ‘Brief and plain rules for the reading of the Irish tongue’ (1652) (Cló 35) (p. 231).² I should have made reference to the discussion of *sealb(ugh)adh* in Ó Riain (2017: 147–9), which I had overlooked in preparing Hoyne (2019).

I also overlooked two examples in *IGT* I of technical terms which occur in Dowley’s 1663 *Mionghraimer* (Cló 42). For the idiom, *gabhaidh .h. greim* (p. 236), see also *IGT* I §2 (Mac Cárthaigh 2014: ll. 171–2). I was probably wrong to suggest that Dowley’s *cumhachta .h.* is a translation from Latin. Cf. the likes of *cumhachta soil* in *IGT* I §30 (Mac Cárthaigh 2014: ll. l. 388). Dowley’s reference to *gramadach Gaoidhilge* (‘grammar of Irish’

¹ For a hypersyllabic alternative version of line *b* above with the rhyme now *féin* : *té*, see Ó Riain (2018: 58 n. 13).

² Page references below are to Hoyne (2019) unless otherwise stated. For details of the primary sources, see R. Sharpe and M. Hoyne (forthcoming). The ‘Cló’ numbers refer to entries in that publication.

or perhaps more likely ‘Irish-language grammar’) could be taken to refer to *IGT* I rather than *Rudimenta Grammaticae Hibernicae* (p. 240). His debt to a more Latinate grammar at other points is not in doubt, however.

Since the appearance of Hoyne (2019), I have noticed some additional examples of brief rules in printed books. Denn’s notes on ‘mortified letters’ in *The Catholic Children’s Religious Primer* (1825) (Cló 388) (p. 274) had probably already appeared the previous year in his *Stuiratheoir an Pheacuig* (Cló 375), but no copy of this printing is now known to survive. They are found in the 1834 reprint of *Stuiratheoir an Pheacuig* (Cló 506). The heading of the 1834 ‘mortified letters’ is briefer than in the *Religious Primer*. Importantly, the wording in 1825 is exactly the same as the preamble to the rules in *The Spiritual Rose* (first published 1820) (Cló 331), confirming that Denn copied them from that source.

Townley’s brief rules of 1836 (Cló 543) (p. 278) appear in at least one other publication of his: *The Irishman’s Friend, a three-version testament, with anecdotes*, an undated Munster Irish translation of the Gospels, entered in Sharpe and Hoyne (forthcoming) s.a. 1836.

Two sets of brief rules by John O’Daly (alias Seán Ó Dálaigh) published in 1844 (Cló 691) and 1858 (Cló 868) respectively are discussed at pp. 286–8. The latter accompanied an edition of the *Pious Miscellany*. O’Daly produced a third effort headed ‘Short rules for reading Irish’ for his 1868 edition of the *Miscellany*, pp. [x]–xi (Cló 976). Judging by a remark on p. ix of his preface, O’Daly believed the book would be read by those learning Irish, as he makes reference to the needs of ‘a beginner who did not speak the language from his infancy’. First the eighteen letters of the Irish alphabet are given. The vowel-graphs are then listed as are the ‘diphthongs’ and ‘triphthongs’. O’Daly subsequently devotes a sentence or two to each of the vocalic digraphs, focusing primarily on whether or not they are long and the correct use of the length-mark. The treatment is patchy and rather vague. <ao> is ‘like ay, in the word mayor, but a little heavier’. <ae> is said to be used only rarely; we are not told how it is realised. No pronunciation is given for short <ai> as it ‘has no equivalent in English’. Though O’Daly implicitly recognises short <eo>, he gives no advice on how to pronounce it. Surprisingly, he gives the pronunciation of <ia> as ‘ee in the word cheer’, as if it were not a true diphthong. <u> is the only single vocalic graph to get an entry. On the authority of John O’Donovan (see pp. 26–7 of O’Donovan’s *Grammar*, published in 1845) all ‘triphthongs’ are said to be long, but no information is given on how to pronounce them.

O'Daly remarks that in the 'terminations' <aidhe>, <aighe>, <aighim>, <uidhe> and <uighim> the 'accent should be placed on the *i*' (in the case of <aighim> and <uighim>, he means the first <i>). His concern with these endings and their placement in this guide recall the comments made by his peer M'Sweeny in 1843 (Hoyne 2019: 283). The consonants (including <h>) are listed. The following observations are noteworthy. We are told that the consonants 'never change their natural sound except when aspirated'. There is no mention of eclipsis or *t*-prothesis, though the orthography of both of his editions of the *Pious Miscellany* contains spellings like *a m-bídheach* and *san t-sliabh* (these are not mentioned in the 1858 guide either). Aspirated 'sounds like an English *v*'. No distinction is made between palatalised and non-palatalised <ch>. Aspirated <d> and <g> sound 'like *y* in English'. '*l*, sounds like *ll*, thick before the broad vowels *a, o, u*; slender after the small vowels *e* and *i*.' Aspirated <m> 'sounds like an English *w* before the vowels *a, o, u*, in the beginning of words [...]. But in the termination of words, after the small vowel *i*, it sounds like an English *v* [...].' <nn> 'produces a thick nasal sound'. <rr> 'sounds rather full'. Having discussed the pronunciation of <sh> and <th>, O'Daly writes, 'The change caused by the aspirate on these two consonants [i.e. *t* and *s*?] removes the necessity of using the letter *h* in many cases; but when consonants are left unaspirated, it must be used to show the aspirate.' I do not understand this sentence. O'Daly concludes, 'A little practice at the foregoing brief rules will enable the reader to read the following poems with elegance and ease.'

Finally, it should be noted that though the title-page of *The Introduction to an Universal Irish Grammar* [...] (?1825) (Cló 385) advertises accompanying 'instructions for reading the Irish [...] containing comprehensive rules, which, with a little application, will enable an Irishman to read his native language with great facility, even without the assistance of a teacher', these never appeared. The book is in fact no more than a reprint of *Blaithfleasg na Milsean* [...] *le Uilliam O Meachair* (1816).

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